In the Claims:

1. (Previously presented): An isolated nucleic acid that encodes the coat protein of Mirafiori lettuce virus, comprising (a) or (b) below:

(a) a nucleic acid that encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2;

(b) the nucleic acid of (a) that comprises a coding region of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

2. (Previously presented): The isolated nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid is an RNA.

3. (Previously presented): The isolated nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid is a DNA.

4-6. (Canceled).

7. (Original): A vector that comprises the nucleic acid of claim 3.

8. (Previously presented): A transformed cell comprising the nucleic acid according to claim 3.

9. (Previously presented): An isolated Mirafiori lettuce virus coat protein having the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2.

10. (Canceled).

11. (Currently amended): A method for producing the protein according to claim 9, wherein said method comprises the steps of:

(a) culturing a transformed cell comprising a nucleic acid that encodes the coat protein of Mirafiori lettuce virus, comprising:

(i) a nucleic acid that encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, or

(ii) the nucleic acid of (i) that comprises a coding region of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1,

or a vector comprising the nucleic acid of (i) or (ii); and

(b) recovering the expressed protein from said transformed cell or its culture supernatant.

12-20. (Canceled).

21. (Previously presented): A transformed cell comprising the vector according to claim 7.

22. (Previously presented): A transformed plant cell which carries the nucleic acid according to claim 1, or the vector according to claim 7.

23. (Previously presented): A transformed plant that comprises the transformed plant cell of claim 22.

24. (Currently amended): A transformed plant that is a progeny or clone of the transformed plant of claim 23, wherein the progeny comprises

(i) a nucleic acid that encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, or

(ii) the nucleic acid of (i) that comprises a coding region of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1,

or a vector comprising the nucleic acid of (i) or (ii).

25. (Previously presented): A propagation material of the transformed plant according to claim 23, wherein said material comprises said nucleic acid, or said vector.

26-43. (Canceled).

44. (Previously presented): An isolated DNA that encodes a sense RNA comprising at least 100 nucleotides that is 100% complementary to, and hybridizes with, a nucleic acid that is 100% complementary to an RNA that encodes the coat protein of Mirafiori lettuce virus, comprising (a) or (b) below:

(a) a nucleic acid that encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2;

(b) the nucleic acid of (a) that encodes a coding region of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

45. (Previously presented): An isolated DNA that encodes an antisense RNA comprising at least 100 nucleotides that is 100% complementary to, and hybridizes with, an RNA that encodes the coat protein of Mirafiori lettuce virus, comprising (a) or (b) below:

(a) a nucleic acid that encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2;

(b) the nucleic acid of (a) that encodes a coding region of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

46. (Previously presented): An isolated DNA that encodes a sense RNA comprising at least 100 nucleotides that is 100% complementary to a nucleic acid that is 100% complementary to bases 87-1400 of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

47. (Previously presented): An isolated DNA that encodes an antisense RNA comprising at least 100 nucleotides that is 100% complementary to bases 87-1400 of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.